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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application Of: )  
S. Akashi et al. )  
For: FASTENER )  
Serial No.: 10/803,413 )  
Filed: March 17, 2004 )  
Examiner: Sandeep K. Gola )  
Art Unit: 3636 )  
Conf. No.: 5562 )  
Atty Dkt. No.: 114141-017 )

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

VIA FACSIMILE TO (571) 273-8300  
Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted to the  
United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 571-273-8300) on April 5, 2007.


1. Amendment Transmittal (1 pg.); and
2. Response to Office Action (2 pgs.).

Respectfully submitted,

EVEREST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP


Date: April 5, 2007

BY

  
Michael S. Leonard, Reg. No. 37,557  
P.O. Box 708  
Northbrook, IL 60065  
Phone: (847) 272-3400

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<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>					Docket No. 114141-017									
Applicant(s): S. Akashi et al.														
Application No. 10/803,413	Filing Date March 17, 2004	Examiner Sandeep K. Gola	Customer No. 43793	Group Art Unit 6363	Confirmation No. 5562									
Invention: FASTENER														
<b>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b>														
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.														
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.														
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>														
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE									
TOTAL CLAIMS	23	23	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00									
INDEP. CLAIMS	3	3	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00									
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00									
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>									
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-3189 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038. <b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b>														
 Signature			Dated: April 5, 2007											
Michael S. Leonard, Reg. No. 37,557 Everest Intellectual Property Law Group P.O. Box 708 Northbrook, IL 60065 Phone: 847-272-3400 Fax: 847-272-3417			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">_____ (Date)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">_____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</td> </tr> </table>				I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on		_____ (Date)		_____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence		_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence	
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CC:														

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Examiner: Sandeep K. Gola

Art Unit: 3636

Conf. No.: 5562

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## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

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on April 5, 2007.

  
Michael S. LeonardRESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed March 8, 2007.

The Office Action entered a restriction requirement between the following patentably distinct inventions.

Invention I, Claims 1-19, drawn to a fastener.

Invention II, Claims 20-21, drawn to a method of closing an opening in an airbag cover.

The Office Action also entered an election requirement between the following patentably distinct species.

Species I, Figures 1A & 1B.

Species II, Figure 3.

Species III, Figures 4A-4C.

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Response to Office Action mailed March 8, 2007

Atty Dkt. No. 114141-017

Species IV, Figures 5A-5C.

Species V, Figure 6.

Species VI, Figure 7.

Species VII, Figure 8.

Species VIII, Figures 9A-9D.

Species IX, Figure 10.

In response, Applicants elect Invention I, claims 1-19 and Species I, Figures 1A & 1B. Claims 1-4, 8, 12 and 15-19 read on at least Species I. The Office Action states that at least claim 1 appears to be generic.


Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

EVEREST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP

Date: April 5, 2007

BY

  
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